



**CENTER OF EXCELLENCE**  
IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT  
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**ASIA-PACIFIC DISEASE OUTBREAK  
/SURVEILLANCE REPORT**

**Week of Sep 19, 2005**

**CHINA**

**Cholera in China Linked to Shellfish**

A total of 172 cholera cases have been found since August 2005 in East China's Fujian Province. This is the highest number in recent years. There have been no deaths since the first case was found on 12 August 2005 in Fuzhou, capital of the province. The reported 172 cases include 137 in Fuzhou, and sporadic ones in a other coastal areas. Up to now, 83 patients have recovered and been released from hospital. All other patients are in stable condition. Most patients said that they had eaten seafood in some small roadside restaurants. An initial investigation by the province's health and epidemic prevention departments agreed that the outbreak was caused by seafood, especially shellfish.

**Source:**

· *XinHuaNet.com*, Sep 20, 2005, [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2005-09/20/content\\_3514589.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2005-09/20/content_3514589.htm)

· *Promed Mail*, Sep 23, 2005,

[http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:10535565368957943991::NO::F2400\\_P1001\\_BACK\\_PAGE,F2400\\_P1001\\_PUB\\_MAIL\\_ID:1000,30487](http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:10535565368957943991::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1000,30487)

**Undiagnosed Disease in China Affects Children**

On 15 September, 95 middle school students in Liuyang City, Hunan Province were ill with flu-like symptoms including fever, headache, dizziness, diarrhea and vomiting. It has been determined that food and deliberate poisoning are not the cause. Currently, 17 students are in serious condition and are receiving hospital treatment while the majority have been released and are attending school again. Because of the rapid outbreak of the disease on the same day, it is possible that this may be a norovirus outbreak.

**Source:**

· *ProMed-mail*, Sep 20, 2005,

[http://www.promedmail.org/pls/promed/f?p=2400:1001:16497004209911235424::NO::F2400\\_P1001\\_BACK\\_PAGE,F2400\\_P1001\\_PUB\\_MAIL\\_ID:1010,30450](http://www.promedmail.org/pls/promed/f?p=2400:1001:16497004209911235424::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1010,30450)

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## INDIA

### Dengue Continues to be a Problem in India

Dengue continues to be a threat in southern India despite anti-mosquito campaigns by municipal and health authorities, which have been ongoing since July. Doctors say they see patients with symptoms of dengue every day and that the disease has become common. Serum dengue kit tests have been performed routinely on patients with symptoms and many are testing positive. Although the government has reported that all possible mosquito-breeding areas have been destroyed, citizens have been advised to keep up hygienic living conditions.

**Source:**

· The Hindu, Sep 19, 2005, <http://www.hindu.com/2005/09/19/stories/2005091911210100.htm>

### India to Increase Vaccine Production as Encephalitis Toll Reaches 765

As India's encephalitis toll reaches 765, the supply of vaccines continues to be a major problem. The world's current supply of vaccines is not enough to protect India's population. Health authorities are planning to increase vaccine production in India, and the government hopes to purchase vaccines from China, Vietnam, South Korea, Japan and Cambodia. Approximately two million doses of encephalitis vaccine are produced each year in India. As current production is inadequate, laboratories in India are planning to produce between five to six million doses next year [2006].

**Source:**

· Khaleej Times, Sep 19, 2005,

[http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/subcontinent/2005/September/subcontinent\\_September735.xml&section=subcontinent&col](http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/subcontinent/2005/September/subcontinent_September735.xml&section=subcontinent&col)

· Khaleej Times, Sep 21, 2005,

[http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/subcontinent/2005/September/subcontinent\\_September818.xml&section=subcontinent&col](http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/subcontinent/2005/September/subcontinent_September818.xml&section=subcontinent&col)

### Malaria Cases Reach over 7,500 in India

Over 7,500 cases of malaria have been reported in India's central state of Chhattisgarh. As of 31 August [2005], 6,731 people have been infected with the fatal Falciparum strain, the main strain of human malaria. The health department has not been able to control the disease due to the lack of healthcare workers and the dispersal of ineffective medicines. Many patients received doses of medicines but did not respond to the treatments. Malaria is especially rampant in the rural areas.

**Source:**

· NewKerala.com, Sep 19, 2005, <http://www.newkerala.com/newsdaily.php?action=fullnews&id=23810>

## INDONESIA

### Indonesia Confirms Another Death from Avian Influenza

A fourth death from avian influenza has been confirmed in Jakarta, Indonesia. The latest victim is a 37-year old woman, who tested positive for the H5N1 strain. She had

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pneumonia and flu-like respiratory ailments. The recent deaths of two children with similar symptoms are currently being investigated. If tests confirm their deaths were due to avian influenza, Indonesia's toll for the disease this year [2005] will increase to six. The WHO has also confirmed that an eight-year-old boy has been infected with avian influenza and is currently hospitalized. Ten other people who are suspected to be infected with the virus are presently receiving treatment. Indonesia is planning to cull suspected poultry flocks as most of the cases have been due to contact with infected birds.

**Source:**

- ProMed-mail, Sep 16, 2005, [http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400\\_P1001\\_BACK\\_PAGE,F2400\\_P1001\\_PUB\\_MAIL\\_ID:1010.30411](http://www.promedmail.org/pls/askus/f?p=2400:1001:1329283286113977926::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1010.30411)
- World Health Organization, Sep 16, 2005, [http://www.who.int/csr/don/2005\\_09\\_16/en/](http://www.who.int/csr/don/2005_09_16/en/)
- ABC News, Sep 21, 2005, <http://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory?id=1146360>
- Reuters AlertNet, Sep 22, 2005, <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L22359133.htm>

## MALAYSIA

### Malaysia on High Dengue Alert

Health officials are working to control a dengue outbreak in four districts of Malaysia. This outbreak has infected 7,000 people and killed 69 this year [2005]. Authorities are concerned that more people will be infected if efforts are not made to keep living conditions sanitary and efforts continue to eradicate mosquito breeding areas. The southern state of Johor, neighboring Singapore, is particularly on high alert, as Singapore has reported over 10,000 dengue cases this year [2005]. Health officials in Johor are prepared for the potential increase in dengue patients.

**Source:**

- The China Post, Sep 18, 2005, [http://www.chinapost.com.tw/i\\_latestdetail.asp?id=30813](http://www.chinapost.com.tw/i_latestdetail.asp?id=30813)
- New Strait Times, Sep 17, 2005, [http://www.nst.com.my/Current\\_News/NST/Saturday/NewsBreak/20050917165024/Article/indexb.html](http://www.nst.com.my/Current_News/NST/Saturday/NewsBreak/20050917165024/Article/indexb.html)

## NEPAL

### Japanese Encephalitis Continues to Spread in Nepal

The outbreak of Japanese Encephalitis in Nepal continues and the death toll has risen to over 270. Most of the victims are children. At least 1,665 people have been infected with the disease this year [2005]. Health authorities are reporting that they are seeing approximately five new cases of encephalitis each day. Recent rainfall poses a threat to the spread of the disease, as mosquitoes breed in wet areas, and doctors are anticipating more cases. Healthcare workers, medical supplies and mosquito nets have been sent to heavily affected areas to control the disease.

**Source:**

- Khaleej Times, Sep 21, 2005, [http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/subcontinent/2005/September/subcontinent\\_September811.xml&section=subcontinent&col](http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle.asp?xfile=data/subcontinent/2005/September/subcontinent_September811.xml&section=subcontinent&col)
- People's Daily Online, Sep 21, 2005, [http://english.people.com.cn/200509/21/eng20050921\\_209966.html](http://english.people.com.cn/200509/21/eng20050921_209966.html)

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## PHILIPPINES

### **Typhoid Fever Concern in the Philippines**

The northwestern city of Dagupenos in the Philippines has reported five cases of typhoid fever and health officials are working to prevent a further spread of the disease. All local government health workers have been ordered to closely monitor the drinking water in their areas. Health officials are advising citizens to be certain their food and water supplies are clean. Health officials inspected water from the area with the largest number of cases, but tests were negative.

**Source:**

· ProMed-mail, Sep 20, 2005,

[http://www.promedmail.org/pls/promed/f?p=2400:1001:16497004209911235424::NO::F2400\\_P1001\\_BACK\\_PAGE,F2400\\_P1001\\_PUB\\_MAIL\\_ID:1010,30463](http://www.promedmail.org/pls/promed/f?p=2400:1001:16497004209911235424::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1010,30463)

### **Anti-Polio Campaign in Lanao del Sur, Philippines**

Earlier this month, the Philippines initiated an anti-polio campaign in Lanao del Sur (central province). The goal of the campaign is to provide free vaccinations to 106,000 children under the age of five within the region. Vaccinations were distributed house-to-house during 29 August - 2 September [2005], and will be again from 26-30 September [2005]. The provincial vaccination drive is being organized through the municipal governments and other district medical centers and hospitals in Lanao del Sur.

**Source:**

· PIA Information Service, Sep 16, 2005, <http://www.pia.gov.ph/news.asp?fi=p050916.htm&no=23>

### **Dengue Cases Increase in the Philippines**

Health officials in the city of Dumaguete, Philippines (southeastern region) are concerned over the rapid increase of dengue cases since last month. The City Health Office and City Veterinary Office have been fogging areas where dengue is prevalent and purchased chemicals to kill the dengue spreading Aedes mosquitoes. Next week, clothing, curtains and mosquito nets will be treated with the resigen chemical to protect people from mosquitoes. Dumaguete City is on alert because neighboring provinces have reported a major increase in dengue cases. The public has been advised to keep their living areas clean.

**Source:**

· Sun Star Dumaguete, Sep 18, 2005, <http://www.sunstar.com.ph/static/dum/2005/09/18/news/dengue.reaches.alarming.level.html>

## SINGAPORE

### **Singapore's Dengue Cases Over 10,000**

In Singapore this year [2005], over 10,200 people have been infected with dengue fever and 10 people have died. The numbers continue to rise in spite of mosquito eradication efforts. Health officials are calling this outbreak of dengue fever the worst since the 1980s. Dengue experts have been brought in to analyze the current outbreak and

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create a plan to stop the spread of the disease. Currently, health officials advise people to check their homes for mosquito-breeding areas to help reduce the mosquito population. Health authorities are also isolating infected people as they can re-transmit the disease if they are bitten by an Aedes mosquito.

**Source:**

- Kuwait News Agency, Sep 18, 2005, <http://www.kuna.net.kw/home/Story.aspx?Language=en&DSNO=770471>
- Channel News Asia International, Sep 18, 2005, <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/singaporelocalnews/view/168922/1/.html>
- TodayOnline.com, Sep 19, 2005, <http://www.todayonline.com/articles/73291.asp>
- Xinhua Online, Sep 19, 2005, [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2005-09/19/content\\_3513077.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2005-09/19/content_3513077.htm)
- Reuters AlertNet, Sep 23, 2005, <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/SIN55598.htm>

## VIETNAM

### Avian Influenza in Vietnam

Vietnam's Ministry of Health has confirmed that a death in July [2005] was due to H5N1 avian influenza. The victim was a 35-year old male farmer who displayed symptoms of the disease on 25 July and died 6 days later. This reported case raises this year's number of avian influenza in Vietnam to 64 cases. Twenty-one cases have been fatal.

**Source:**

- ProMed-mail, Sep 19, 2005, [http://www.promedmail.org/pls/promed/f?p=2400:1001:16497004209911235424::NO::F2400\\_P1001\\_BACK\\_PAGE,F2400\\_P1001\\_PUB\\_MAIL\\_ID:1010,30442](http://www.promedmail.org/pls/promed/f?p=2400:1001:16497004209911235424::NO::F2400_P1001_BACK_PAGE,F2400_P1001_PUB_MAIL_ID:1010,30442)

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